

**CLARK COUNTY
CLEAN WATER COMMISSION
Meeting Notes**

Wednesday, September 4, 2002
6:00 – 9:00 PM
Clark County Public Works Department
Conference Room
4700 NE 78th Street
Vancouver, Washington

Call to Order

Roll Call:

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Present

Robbie Agard, Cal Ek, Dana Kemper, Susan Rasmussen, Judy Schramm, Don Steinke and Virginia van Breemen

Clark County Clean Water Commission Members Absent

Mary Martin and Art Stubbs

Clark County Public Works Staff

Kelli Frost, Earl Rowell and Henry Schattenkerk

Audience

Mary Mitchell and Ralph Wolford

Introduction

The members of the Clark County Clean Water Commission, Clark County staff and guests were introduced.

Agenda and material review

The material for tonight's meeting include:

- 9/4/02 Clark County Clean Water Commission Meeting Agenda;
- 8/7/02 Clark County Clean Water Commission revised Discussion Notes;
- 6/5/02 Clark County Clean Water Commission Meeting Notes;
- 6/19/02 Clark County Clean Water Commission Work Session Notes;
- Attachment "A" Term of Each Clark County Clean Water Commission Member;
- E-mail from Don Steinke re: Ride along report;
- Clean Water Commission Appointment Letter dated July 31, 2002 from the BOCC to Virginia van Breemen;
- Clean Water Commission Appointment Letter dated August 6, 2002 from the BOCC to Anne Jackson;
- Meeting Facilities around Clark County;
- 2002 CWP Issues through August 28, 2002;
- Clean Water Program 2002 service fee appeal process;
- E-mail from Kelli Frost re: Clean Water Publication;
- Watershed Stewards Program 2002 Second Quarter Report;
- Evaluation of ESA Outreach at the 2002 Clark County Fair.

6/05/02 notes

The notes from the 6/05/02 Clark County Clean Water Commission meeting were approved as written.

Public Input

Mrs. Mitchell addressed the Clean Water Commissioners regarding her parcel and her Clean Water Program Fee bill. She wanted to know why she has to pay more than her neighbor when the water drains off their parcels and into her yard, causing standing water.

Mr. Agard explained the Clean Water Funding Task Force developed a fee structure derived from the size of a parcel, based on the fact that larger residential parcels have more permeable surface.

Mrs. Mitchell stated she has talked to many people representing the county and hasn't been able to have her situation addressed, while damage continues to occur.

The Clean Water Commission asked County staff to visit Mrs. Mitchell's property to see if there can be anything done to help alleviate her problem.

County staff will follow up and do a site visit to Mrs. Mitchell's property.

Updates and Communications from the public, media or other agencies

Mr. Rowell: I participated in a phone interview with Marvin Case of The Reflector and provided information about the Clean Water Program, more specifically concentrating on the monitoring and education programs.

Mr. Rowell: In your packet of materials is a positive e-mail response to the Clean Water Program and the flyer that was included with the bill.

Mrs. Rasmussen: Do you know how many calls the Treasurer's office has received this year? Do you know where the majority of the calls are coming from?

Mr. Rowell answered there has been no official count from the Treasurer's office regarding the number of calls they have received. The Water Resources office has received over 500 calls this billing cycle, which is about half the calls counted during the 2001 billing cycle.

Mr. Schattenkerk informed the Clean Water Commissioners that he is working on a map that will show the areas of Clark County the Clean Water Program calls are coming from. He indicated that from the information he currently has, the majority of the calls seem to center around the Salmon Creek, and the north Clark County areas.

Mr. Steinke talked about the different ride-alongs he went on with various Clark County departments. He went on four different tours, each lasting a few hours each. He was able to view activities performed by Code Enforcement, Development Review, Erosion Control, and he also toured some of the capital improvement projects that Mr. Giese is working on.

Mr. Rowell informed the Clean Water Commission they have the opportunity to participate in the ride-alongs as well. Other ride-along opportunities include Monitoring, and Maintenance and Operations activities. Those interested should contact the Water Resources office.

Mr. Rowell outlined the number of appeals that have been submitted this billing cycle. So far, five appeals have been received. The Director of Public Works has denied three of these. One appeal was approved and their Clean Water Fee is being refunded. Another appeal, submitted by Pacific Rock, is in review by County staff.

Mr. Ek: What is Pacific Rock's general issue for appeal?

Mr. Rowell: They claim that they do not have improvements worth \$10,000 or more, and all runoff enters the ground.

Mr. Agard: I'm nervous about your calculations. We need to do something that focuses on these large trucks that lose dirt and leak oil as they travel to and from their pits and other operations.

Mr. Ek: I'm very disappointed that Pacific Rock and other quarries are appealing their clean water billing fees and this Commission is not addressing their issues, and we should be. When the staff becomes aware of these issues they should be addressing the Commission before reducing fees or adjusting impervious surface calculations.

Mr. Agard: If you presented us with these issues, we, as a Commission, could come up with some suggestions on how they should be handled.

Mr. Kemper: It may be time to start modifying the existing ordinance to address these and other issues as they arise.

Mr. Rowell announced that Ms. Van Breemen has been chosen by the Board of County Commissioners to replace Mr. Bourlet who resigned in June. Also, there is another new member of the Clean Water Commission, Ms. Anne Jackson, who will be replacing Mr. Kemper in February 2003. Ms. Jackson will be invited to attend the Clean Water Commission meetings and participate in discussions, however she will not become a voting member until February 2003.

Mr. Rowell: I will schedule meetings with both Ms. Jackson and Ms. van Breemen to provide them with information on the Clean Water Program and the various topics currently being discussed by the Clean Water Commissioners.

Mr. Rowell provided a list of meeting facilities around Clark County and asked the Commissioners if they were interested in holding a future meeting in one of these locations.

Ms. Schramm: Could we preface the meeting with training and explain the stormwater problem and why there is an issue?

Mr. Rowell: We can provide a list and examples of projects that we are working on (monitoring, education, and maintenance projects, etc.).

Mr. Ek: We have to be careful not to talk down to people.

Mr. Kemper asked the Clean Water Commissioner how often they wanted to hold meetings in various locations in Clark County.

The Clean Water Commissioners felt that four times a year, once in the north, south, east, and west sections of Clark County would be sufficient.

Mr. Agard made a motion to hold the next Clean Water Commission meeting, on October 2, 2002 in Amboy.

All Commissioners passed this motion.

Watershed Stewards Program

Mr. Bock provided a brief update on the Watershed Stewards program. The watershed stewards have had a very active summer participating in such programs as Science in the Parks a cooperative program with the City of Vancouver and the Clark County Fair.

Mr. Bock also informed the Clean Water Commissioners that despite placing large ads in The Columbian, The Reflector, and The Post-Record regarding the Watershed Stewards class this fall, he only received 3 responses. Mr. Bock indicated that the best way to recruit new students for the Watershed Stewards program is by word of mouth and for him to keep making public appearances to various groups and clubs around the County.

Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 9:00.

The next Clean Water Commission Meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 2, 2002 at 6:00. Location TBA.

Respectfully submitted by Kelli Frost

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